

Knowing of your interest in protecting our environment, I am writing to share with you a number of important actions I have taken during the 109th Congress.

I continue to serve as Co-chair of the Congressional House Climate Change Caucus, where I have worked to raise awareness about global warming among my colleagues. Together with Co-chair Rep. Wayne Gilchrest, I introduced H.R. 759, The Climate Stewardship Act. This legislation, which would create a market-based approach for capping the emission of global warming causing pollutants, currently has 122 cosponsors. It is my priority to continue building support for this and other policies to address global warming.

As a member of the Appropriations Committee, I have had the privilege of serving on the Interior subcommittee and as the Ranking Member of the Transportation, Treasury and Independent Agencies subcommittee. Through these positions, I have been able to provide funding for numerous projects in the First Congressional District of Massachusetts. Notable projects include \$2 million for the Franklin County bikeway system, \$3.7 million for the permanent preservation of 3,350 acres of forestland in the North Quabbin region, \$900,000 to reduce invasive plant species across 10,000 acres of forested uplands on the Berkshire Taconic plateau, and \$1 million for wind energy demonstration at Mount Wachusett Community College.

In addition, I continue to fight against the Bush Administration's efforts to rollback environmental protection. I have opposed the Environmental Protection Agency's proposal to weaken reporting requirements for the Toxic Release Inventory and their use of human subjects in pesticide testing. I also opposed the Administration's proposal to sell off vast tracts of our national forests (304,000 acres in 41 states), which would have set a dangerous precedent to temporarily plug a budget gap. I will continue fighting to prevent these and other rollbacks.

I also continue to oppose the Administration's unbalanced energy plan, which relies too heavily on increased production of gas, coal, and oil without adequate emphasis on conservation and efficiency. Americans deserve safe, clean, reliable, and affordable energy. We can achieve these goals without sacrificing our health and environment. We can increase our energy security by decreasing our dependence on oil and on old, dirty, power plants. And, we can use new technologies that produce energy cleaner and more efficiently.

As the 109th Congress comes to a close this fall, please be assured that I will continue to fight to protect human health and the environment from destructive policies and will use my voice in Congress to fight to preserve and protect the environment.

As always, if you have a question or opinion about a particular issue, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

John W. Olver
Member of Congress

To sign up for my occasional e-newsletters, click [here](#) . To stop receiving my e-newsletters,

click [here](#) .